

REMARKS

Claims 37-46 are pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-12, 16-21, and 23-36 are objected to because of an informality of the lack of antecedent basis for “the application”. This objection has been eliminated by the submission of new claims.

Claims 1, 3-9, 12, 13, 15-21, 24, 27-33, and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Pepe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,742,905). Claims 2, 14, and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pepe in view of Lewis (U.S. Patent No. 6,513,019).

New independent claim 37 recites, among other features, an API that receives, from a remote application, a message and a designation. The designation comprises destination information identifying (i) a set of multiple recipients and (ii) different modalities for transmitting messages to a given one of the recipients.

These recited features make it clear that the present invention involves interfacing an enterprise application to a messaging facility, to facilitate the designation at the enterprise application of a single message to be transmitted (by the messaging facility) to multiple recipients using different transmission modalities.

In stark contrast, the system Pepe et al. is directed to features facilitating the designation by a subscriber – a single recipient – of where he or she is to receive his or her messages; *not* facilitating the designation by a sender (perhaps a single sender) of multiple recipients of a specific message and of the different modalities of transmission for that message to respective ones of those recipients.

Neither Lewis nor any other reference of record, whether considered alone or in any proper combination, suggests or teaches these features as recited by claim 37. Accordingly, Applicants submit that each of the presently submitted claims 37-46 is patentable over the art of record.

Serial No.: 09/621,188

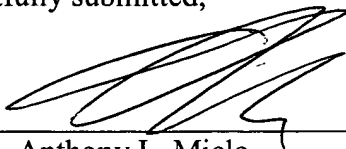
In view of the forgoing, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. A Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge all fees to Deposit Account No. 16-0085, Reference 21514/2032.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 12, 2004



Name: Anthony L. Miele
Registration No.: 34,393
Customer No.: 35408
Palmer & Dodge LLP
111 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02199-7613
Tel: 617-239-0100